Hickman/Broviac Catheter

Your child has had a central tunneled catheter (Hickman/Broviac catheter) inserted to provide ________________________.

The catheter is a size _______ French.

The Hickman/Broviac catheter can stay in place for as long as your child’s doctor thinks it is needed and no complications occur.

**Changing the Dressing:** The dressing will be changed weekly. The steps for changing the dressing are as follows:

1. Gather supplies: Chloraprep® dressing change tray
2. Put a mask on anyone who is within 3 feet of you and your child while you are doing a procedure.
3. Wash your hands for 15 seconds with soap and water.
4. Remove the old dressing. (Look at the site for redness, swelling, or drainage.) If there is drainage present, wash your hands again for 15 seconds.
5. Put on your sterile gloves.
6. Clean the catheter tubing with 2 alcohol wipes, starting at the exit site (where the catheter enters the body) and cleaning up the catheter.
7. Pinch wings of Chloraprep® applicator to break the ampule and release the cleaning solution. Using a back and forth scrubbing motion, clean 5 inches in all directions from catheter exit site for 30 seconds. Allow to dry 1 minute. Do not blow, fan, or blot dry. Make sure area is completely dry before applying dressing.
8. Loop catheter (if long enough), and apply dressing.

**Changing the Adapter:** The adapter will be changed once a week.

1. Gather supplies: new adapter (cap), alcohol wipes, and pre-filled normal saline syringes
2. Wash hands for 15 seconds with soap and water.
3. Clamp the catheter.
4. Open the adapter package. Remove the white plastic tip. (Be careful not to touch the end of the adapter.)
5. Attach normal saline syringe.
6. Flush the new adapter.
7. Remove the old adapter.
8. Scrub the end of the catheter with an alcohol wipe for 15 seconds. Let dry for 5 seconds. (The open end of the catheter should not be allowed to drop or touch anything. Scrub again if the end touches anything.)

9. Attach new adapter to catheter.

10. Unclamp the catheter.

11. Flush catheter with normal saline and heparin as directed below (under "Flushing the Catheter").

**Flushing the Catheter:** Flush the catheter _____ times a day. If your child has a double lumen catheter, both sides should be flushed _____ times a day.

1. Gather supplies: alcohol wipes, pre-filled normal saline syringe, and pre-filled _____ unit heparin flush syringe
2. Wash hands for 15 seconds with soap and water.
3. Remove cap from the normal saline syringe and push out all of the air.
4. Scrub the adapter with an alcohol wipe for 15 seconds. Let dry for 5 seconds. (Once the adapter has been cleaned, it should not be allowed to touch anything. Scrub again if the adapter touches anything.)
5. Unclamp the catheter.
6. Attach the normal saline syringe. Flush the catheter with _____ ml of normal saline. Remove the syringe, then clamp the catheter.
7. Remove cap from the heparin syringe and push out all of the air.
8. Scrub the adapter with an alcohol wipe for 15 seconds. Let dry for 5 seconds.
9. Unclamp the catheter. Insert the heparin flush syringe into the adapter. Flush with _____ ml of heparin.
10. Remove the syringe and clamp the catheter.

**Remember:**

- Always flush with _____ ml of normal saline before and after giving medications.
- Always flush with the heparin solution last.

**Safety Precautions:**

- No contact sports or rough play (like football, basketball, soccer, and wrestling)
- No swimming or hot tubs
- Sponge baths are preferable. However, if your child needs to bathe or shower, follow the instructions given to you to protect the dressing and keep it from getting wet. If the dressing does get wet, it will need to be changed.
Call your doctor or home care provider, or call and have the Vascular Access nurse paged, if:

- The exit site is draining or appears red and swollen.
- Your child has a fever of 101°F (38.3°C) or greater.
- You can not flush the catheter or it is difficult to flush. NEVER try to force any solution through the catheter.
- You are unable to obtain blood from the catheter.
- The catheter is pulled out partially or all the way. If the catheter is pulled out all the way, put pressure on the insertion site (where the catheter enters the vein) and exit site (where the catheter leaves the body). Call immediately. Do not wait until your child's next appointment.
- The catheter breaks or leaks. Clamp the line between the break or leak and the child. Wrap the broken end of the catheter in gauze. Call immediately when you notice the leak or break. Do not wait until your child's next appointment.
- You have questions or other concerns.

Doctor: ____________________ at ___________________

Home Care Provider: ____________________ at ___________________

The Children's Mercy Hospital at (816) 234-3000: Ask to have the Vascular Nurse paged.